Bengal which has administrative control over DGHC.

Possession of by GNLF Members

819. SHRI DAWA LAMA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some members and leaders of Gorkha National Liberation Front posses both legal and illegal arms;

(b) whether it is also a fact that those arms have been contemplated to use to terrorise political opponents; and

(c) if so, the action proposed by Government to curb such activities, immediately?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) to (c) The information is being obtained from the Government of West Bengal and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Reimbursement for Joint Coastal Patrolling

820. SHRI BANGARU LAXMAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the expenditure incurred by State Governments for Joint Coastal Patrolling is being reimbursed by the Union Government;

(b) if so, whether the expenditure incurred for the purpose has been reimbursed to Gujarat Government; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The expenditure of Rs. 970.48 lakhs has been reimbursed to the State Government of Gujarat so far for hiring of fishing trawlers for Coastal Patrolling.

Looting of Purshottam Express

821. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the New Delhi bound Purshottam Exporess was looted recently by robbers near Tundla, who changed the railway signal;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what action has been taken by Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) to (c) The Government of Uttar Pradesh has reported that, on 24.1.1999, a gang of 10-12 dacoits overpowered the Railway employees on duty at Block Hut (B) of Tundla Railway Station and changed the Railway signal resulting in the stoppage of New Delhi bound Purshottam Express. The dacoits entered the AC coach and started looting. The passengers raised alarm and some of them also opened fire. One of the dacoits named Inderpal was apprehended. Two dead bodies recovered next day from the site of the incident were reportedly identified as members of the gang. A case has been registered under sections 395/397 IPC at P.S. Nagli Sipi, Ferozabad. The Police authorities are making efforts to apprehnd the other dacoits.

Plot to Assassinate Home Minister

822. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether it is a fact that a Khalistani plot to assassinate him has been foiled recently;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof, stating the agency/agencies involved in the plot; and

(c) what action has been taken by Government in the matter?